GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1509
ANSWERED ON:09.03.2017
Implementation of PRIs
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

a) whether the State Governments have been asked by the Union Government to send reports regarding the effective implementation of Panchayati Raj System in their respective States;
b) if so, the details thereof;
c) the name of States which have already sent the reports in this regard;
d) the steps taken/assistance provided by the Union Government for decentralisation of the administrative work; and
e) the extent of success achieved in this regard as a result thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a)to(c): The Ministry of Panchayati Raj (MoPR) has been undertaking, the preparation of a Devolution Index (DI) from 2006 onwards, through independent institutions which ranks States on the enabling environment that has been created in the States under the framework of the Constitution. For 2015-16 Devolution Index prepared by MoPR was released by the Honourable Prime Minister on the National Panchayat Diwas on 24th April, 2016.
To assess the level of decentralization and performance of Panchayats in the States through an Expert Group, and prepare a roadmap for the future consistent with the individual States' policies and priorities, States were requested to constitute an Expert Group consisting of professionals, experts from different walks of life, officials and senior political leaders with experience in Panchayati Raj and bring out the road map. So far States of Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Rajasthan have intimated about the setting up of Expert Group for the respective States.

(d)&(e): Under the scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) [erstwhile Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA)], the MoPR has provided financial assistance to the States for strengthening of Panchayati Raj across the country. From 2015-16, funds have been provided for training, Training infrastructure, HR for training, e-governance, PESA, IEC and PMU. The Government is also providing proactive support to the States to develop convergent local development plans, capacity building of elected representatives, Panchayat functionaries and other stakeholders, improving institutional support structures; to develop budgeting, accounting and auditing manuals and to improve the functioning of these grassroots level local self-governments for proper and efficient utilization of resources allocated for various developmental activities as per local felt needs. As per information received from the State Governments, 26 States have formulated guidelines for preparation of Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP) to facilitate proper utilisation of funds under the Fourteenth Finance Commission award disbursed directly to the Gram Panchayats.

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